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In early June 1952 the following documents were used by civilians in North Korea:

- a. **Citizenship certificate.** The basic document for all civilians of the age of 17 and over was the citizenship certificate. The North Koreans were using certificates which had been issued before the start of the Korean war, but which had been chopped in June 1952 by local police stations. Temporary certificates were issued to those who had lost the pre-war certificates and were chopped by local police stations during the period 15 to 30 March 1951. The loss of the citizenship certificate had to be reported to the local police station where an application for the reissue of the certificate was made out. A copy of the approved application could be used in place of the certificate for a period of one week, but was not considered as acceptable for identification as the actual certificate.
- b. **Birth certificate.** The birth certificate was the basic document for persons under the age of 17. It had to be exchanged for a citizenship certificate at the seventeenth birthday.
- c. **Military certificate.** Immediately after the beginning of the Korean war a military certificate was issued to all men between the ages of 17 and 40. This certificate was chopped by the Military Mobilization Board in March 1951. Temporary military certificates were issued to those who for some reason did not receive a document during the original distribution.
- d. **Factory identification card.** A factory identification card was issued to persons employed regularly by North Korean factories. These cards were difficult to obtain, especially from government-owned factories, since many persons would work at a factory only a few days to obtain a card, which exempted them from compulsory labor mobilization. A card issued by a

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government-owned factory could be used in place of the citizenship certificate for identification.

- e. Employment card. Technical experts and employees of long service were issued an employment card which could be used for identification. The card permitted free movement in the area of employment, but the military certificate and the citizenship certificate were necessary for travel outside the area.
- f. Attendance card. All workers were issued an attendance card which could be used for identification. The card recorded the title of the job, place of work, and daily attendance or absence and was chopped by the employer.
- g. Military training card. Men between the ages of 16 and 31 were issued a military training card which recorded daily military training and was chopped by the training officer. This training was begun in January 1951 and had to be taken by all within the age group, except those employed by the government-owned factories. Cards were issued without inquiry and investigation to those who requested them from the local training officer.
- h. Official travel certificates. Travel certificates were issued by government organizations, political and social organizations, and government-owned factories to employees on official business. The document had no special form, and merely included the pertinent facts written on a plain piece of white paper chopped by the organization. Besides the travel certificate, a citizenship card, military certificate, and a factory identification card or letter of credence was needed while travelling.
- i. Letter of credence. A letter of credence was issued by factories to employees dispatched on official business if the employees did not possess the factory identification card.
- j. Passage certificate. A passage certificate was issued by the branch police station, the local official of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the city or the village people's committee to civilians who had private business in another area. In theory the certificate could not be issued for commercial use, but wealthy merchants often bribed local officials. Women and old persons could travel inside a province with a passage certificate, but young men could travel only about 10 miles with it. The certificate issued by the Ministry of Internal Affairs was the most powerful.
- k. Immunization certificate. The immunization certificate had to be carried only during periods when the government was giving inoculations.

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